

so that our nation could honor and formally pay its respects to the late former President Ronald Reagan.

While federal employees across the nation were granted a one-day paid "holiday" for this purpose, non-salaried Guest Services employees in the Longworth, Rayburn, and Cannon House Office Buildings were summarily barred from reporting to work, and GSI announced they would not be paid for this previously scheduled day of employment. Instead, GSI employees were told that they would be required to utilize an accrued vacation or sick day.

What GSI has done is to compel its employees to effectively pay GSI one day of wages for the National Day of Mourning. This is extraordinary. As a government contractor, GSI must have been aware of the possibility that Congress or the President could designate a one-day National Holiday shutting down the federal government at any time. But while the rest of the nation set aside June 11th to honor and pay solemn tribute to former President Reagan, GSI appears to have used the National Day of Mourning as a unique opportunity to extract compensation from its workforce in retaliation for a cost inherent in GSI's relationship with the government.

We do not believe this was appropriate or within the spirit of this historically important day. We request that you both pay your workers for the day of June 11th and return any vacation or sick leave utilized by employees in response to your policy. Your employees should be commended—not punished—for their hard work and dedication in service to the federal government and our nation.

We look forward to your prompt response to this request. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely

Dennis J. Kucinich; Max Sandlin; Gary L. Ackerman; Jim Cooper; Ellen O. Tauscher; Stephanie Tubbs Jones; Jim McDermott; Karen McCarthy; José E. Serrano; Gregory W. Meeks; Brad Sherman; Barbara Lee; Bernard Sanders; Sam Farr; Albert Russell Wynn; Lois Capps; Betty McCollum; George Miller; William D. Delahunt; Diane E. Watson; Patrick J. Kennedy; Tammy Baldwin; Mark Udall; Neil Abercrombie; Sheila Jackson-Lee; Jay Inslee; Fortney Pete Stark; Major R. Owens; Sherrod Brown; Brian Baird; Michael E. Capuano; Jerrold Nadler; Tom Udall; Rosa L. DeLauro; Raul M. Grijalva; Eddie Bernice Johnson; Michael M. Honda; and Chris Van Hollen.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DEREK WINANS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with sorrow that I rise to inform my colleagues of the sudden passing of Derek T. Winans. Mr. Winans, a direct descendant of William Wheeler, a founder of Newark with Robert Treat in 1666, lived in my hometown of Newark for over 40 years. He was known for his deep commitment to civil rights and was a major figure in organizing and winning support for anti-poverty, alternative education, and community development programs.

He was a graduate of St. Paul's in Concord, NH, and of Harvard College. His senior thesis at Harvard received a magna cum laude. His own success in education inspired him to devote himself to providing similar opportunities

for the youth in our community. Derek founded the Newark Day Care Council/Springfield Avenue Community School, the Ironbound Community Corporation/Ironbound Children's Center, and the Community Mobilization Center. He was co-founder of the Newark Community Project for People with AIDS, served as secretary of the Newark Coordinating Council, was active with the Newark Community Union Project, and acted as a spokesperson and planner for many civil rights and community-based organizations in Newark. He worked as deputy director for the International Youth Organization (IYO), planning director of the United Community Corporation, and was the staff person for Councilman Donald Tucker during his founding of the NJ Black Issues Convention.

Derek was not only involved locally but he also made an impact nationally. He was very active with Congressman BARNEY FRANK of Massachusetts, a Harvard classmate, on the enactment of the Ryan White Legislation in the early 90's, which significantly increased funding for education and treatment of HIV and AIDS. Earlier this year the House of Representatives approved a proposal written by Derek: The New Jersey Underground Railroad Cultural Heritage Project, for which IYO is serving as the lead agency. It was my privilege to work with Derek not only on these two projects but many others mentioned earlier.

Derek loved public policy, believed in the power of people to govern well, and possessed a long history of civic and political involvement. He was an important figure in many New Jersey political campaigns, with State Assemblyman George Richardson, Mayor Ken Gibson, and the Newark City Council campaign of the late Jesse Allan. He was truly a great friend of mine.

Derek was the son of the late Elizabeth Carrington and James Dusenberry Winans. He is survived by his stepmother, Polly Dudley Winans Beischer of Lakewood, NJ; a brother, Pete Torrey Winans of Amelia Island, FL; two stepbrothers; a stepsister; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in remembering the life of this remarkable man, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in recalling his lifelong commitment to service, integrity, and compassion. I express my condolences to his family and friends as they grieve his passing.

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF PAUL RUMLER

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous contributions Paul Rumler has made to Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District. Paul has been an integral part of my Washington staff for the last few months, but he has moved on to greener pastures.

Paul was a versatile contributor in the office, lending a hand to constituent services and the development of legislation. His research on methamphetamine abuse played an important role in the development of H.R. 4636, the Methamphetamine Remediation Act.

During his time here, he quickly won over the staff as well as Middle Tennesseans who were visiting our Nation's Capitol. His easy-going attitude and gentlemanly demeanor made him a wonderful addition to the office.

Although my staff and I will miss his hard work and enthusiasm, we are happy for Paul as he embarks on his new journey. I wish him all the best.

WESTERN SHOSHONE CLAIMS DISTRIBUTION ACT

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I request that the following letters between the Committee on Resources and the Committee on Ways and Means regarding H.R. 884, the Western Shoshone Claims Distribution Act, be submitted for the record under General Leave.

As you know, H.R. 884 passed the House under suspension of the rules on June 21, 2004. I wish to include these letters between the two Committees concerning the legislation as part of the RECORD.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
WASHINGTON, DC, JUNE 3, 2004.

Hon. BILL THOMAS,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Longworth House Office Building, Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I request your help in expediting consideration of H.R. 884, the Western Shoshone Claims Distribution Act, authored by Congressman Jim Gibbons. The bill authorizes the distribution of a monetary judgment awarded to the members of the Western Shoshone tribe in 1979 based on land claims against the United States and mismanagement of their tribal accounts by the federal government. The funds have been appropriated and have been accruing interest for over 20 years. Under current law, legislation is required before the tribal members can receive their awards and to establish an education trust fund for the tribe. The Committee on Resources favorably reported the bill on October 7, 2003.

H.R. 884 is the House companion measure to S. 618, which was passed by the Senate by unanimous consent on October 17, 2003. The Joint Tax Committee has determined that Section 3(c)(3) of the Senate bill contains revenue provisions and would be subject to a blueslip by your Committee. To avoid this Constitutional problem and to facilitate passage in the Senate, I wish to amend H.R. 884 with the text of S. 618 as passed by the Senate and have this considered by the House of Representatives under suspension of the rules next week.

I recognize the Committee on Ways and Means' jurisdictional interest in Section 3(c)(3) of the proposed amendment but ask that you allow H.R. 884 to go forward. I agree that by allowing the revised bill to be scheduled, the Ways and Means Committee does not relinquish any jurisdiction over H.R. 884 or similar legislation. I would also support your request to be represented on a conference on H.R. 884, if one should become necessary. Finally, I will include my letter and your response in the Congressional Record during Floor consideration of the measure.

The Western Shoshone have waited for over 25 years to receive their just awards, and Congressman Gibbons has been a tireless advocate on their behalf. We both appreciate